

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 7, 2000

LB 1092

that came down in committee were two...one was, I believe, from the Department of Agriculture and I don't remember what the other one's capacity was, when we introduced this bill, from Kansas and they gave us no indication that this program was failing or people were pulling out of it. In fact, they seemed quite pleased with it. And I do have the committee testimony. If you want me to pull some of that out, I can read it to you or...

SENATOR VRTISKA: No, no, I...

SENATOR ROBAK: ...what, no, and I...I'm not aware of that. In fact, we are in contact with Minnesota almost daily, my office is.

SENATOR VRTISKA: This is not a reason for me to oppose the bill. I'm not trying to oppose the bill and I'm not going to oppose the bill. The only reason I brought that up, and I think it was attested to by Senator Janssen, one of the problems with the...with this federal inspection was some of the lack of proper inspection. I think Senator Janssen indicated that. And I guess all I'm...all I'm bringing this up for is I...

SENATOR ROBAK: Well, Senator Vrtiska, they have to be equal to or above federal standards.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I understand that.

SENATOR ROBAK: They cannot be a little less than that.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I understand that they have to be but, again, what I'm trying to say is that we...I would hope that the Department of Agriculture, who would be in charge of this program, would look keenly at the training that Senator Janssen brought up and these people would be properly trained so, in fact, that inspection would be of the quality that would, in fact, would, in fact, make the product they're putting out in the public would be safe, and of course that's what we're all after. There's no problem with that, except to make sure that that happens. Again, I'm not going to oppose the bill based on the fact that your introduction was tremendous. You know, if I was against it, I'd a changed my mind based on the way you